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**E**co Film Fest 2008 brings together budding filmmakers, environmental activists, scientists and the government to produce entertaining yet educational documentaries or films about the environment. Entries were open to Malaysians aged 18 and above, from May 30-Sept 30, with the theme "Climate Change – A Call For Action".

The Eco Film Fest has been created to generate interest among the public and filmmakers to watch and document environmental issues.

"Let's face it, we'd rather watch movies, especially creative ones, than listen to lectures," says EcoKnights founder and director Yasmin Rasyid (right).

Free public screenings of the films are on throughout October at various places, culminating in the Festival from Nov 1-Nov 2 at Aswara.

The Festival will include the five finalist films, creative workshops by celebrities, environmental workshops, recycling activities, special performances by local musicians such as Mia Palencia, One Buck Short, Estrella and more, organic food sampling and eco-exhibits.

The festival will also showcase three award-winning environmental documentaries which will be shown for the first time in Malaysia, namely, *Kilowatt Ours*, *A Crude Awakening* and *Who Killed*.

## Films and more



### The Electric Car?

"The Festival is about empowering all Malaysians to take on a greener approach in their daily activities by offering greener options. If you're thinking of using more eco-friendly stationery, or wondering if organic food tastes any good or are sceptical about solar panels, or other green gadgets, the Festival will be a good place to check these items out," says Yasmin.

Yasmin also hopes that people will start caring about the consequences of their actions and make an effort to change simple things like replacing old light bulbs with energy efficient ones, separating waste at home and not using styrofoam packaging or plastics.

"If we can say no to ONE plastic a day, multiply that by 26 million Malaysians, that's 26 million less plastic bags floating in our seas."

I hope the public can bring their own shopping bags and food containers (if they want to take away), bring their own water bottles, car pool (or take public transportation), avoid smoking on that day and most important of all, throw their trash in designated areas," adds Yasmin.

"Response has been great. I never realised that so many young people crave events such as this."

"We have had a flood of volunteers who have signed up to help in the event via our website [www.ecoknights.com](http://www.ecoknights.com). This shows the spirit of volunteerism among the younger generation which I thought was lost," she says.

Universities like UPM and UM have also been very supportive and are keen to showcase their green technology, research and and their students' work.